GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2906
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2004
SENTENCE FOR RAPE
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has opined that the sentence for rape is less and absurd as compared to the crime;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make the sentence for rape as severe as the crime;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a) to (d): No specific opinion of the Supreme Court has been received. However, the existing provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 prescribe for a sentence upto life imprisonment in case of offence of rape. The Law Commission and the Committee constituted for making recommendations for Criminal Justice System have not recommended death penalty for the offence of rape. Accordingly, there is no such proposal under consideration.